

Claims

- [1] A method of assessing a grade of vascular injury, characterized by determining the level of PTX3 in a test sample.
- [2] The method according to claim 1, wherein a grade of vascular injury represents the severity of heart disease or the severity of cerebrovascular disease.
- [3] The method according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the test sample is blood, serum, or plasma.
- [4] The method according to any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein the PTX3 protein level of the test sample is determined by use of an anti-PTX3 antibody.
- [5] The method according to claim 4, which employs an anti-PTX3 antibody immobilized on a carrier and an anti-PTX3 antibody labeled with a labeling substance.
- [6] The method according to claim 5, wherein the labeling substance is biotin.
- [7] The method according to any one of claims 4 to 6, wherein the anti-PTX3 antibody is an antibody recognizing full-length PTX3 or a peptide fragment thereof.
- [8] A diagnostic agent for assessing a grade of vascular injury, the agent comprising an anti-PTX3 antibody.
- [9] The diagnostic agent according to claim 8, which comprises an anti-PTX3 antibody immobilized on a carrier and an anti-PTX3 antibody labeled with a labeling substance.
- [10] A method of screening a medicament for vascular injury, characterized by administering a test substance to an animal

or bringing a test substance into contact with a cell, and determining variation in amount of PTX3 protein or a PTX3 gene.

[11] The screening method according to claim 10, wherein the vascular injury is a heart disease or a cerebrovascular disease.